

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.~~

Please add the following claims:

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1 16. (New) In a computing apparatus, a method of operation by a computer aided
2 design (CAD) application, the method comprising:
3 generating a failure indication upon encountering a failure during an operation
4 performed for a user design ; and
5 automatically facilitating a user in determining a solution for the failure.

1 17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said encountering comprises
2 encountering an occurrence of one or more software events that are to result in at
3 least one of an error and a warning.

1 18. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises generating and displaying a user interface having a title indicative of the
3 operation during which operation, the failure was encountered.

1 19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises generating and displaying one or more expandable error messages.

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1 20. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises generating and displaying one or more error messages in a hierarchical
3 manner.

1 21. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises facilitating receiving an indication of at least one of editing, canceling, and
3 accepting the failure.

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1 22. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises generating and displaying a message having a suggestion for solving the
3 failure.

1 23. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said automatically facilitating
2 comprises visually indicating a portion of the user design associated with the failure.

1 24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein said visually indicating comprises
2 highlighting the portion of the user design associated with the failure.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein visually indicating comprises
2 generating and displaying a graphical representation of a light bulb.

1 26. (New) An apparatus comprising:

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2 a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming
3 instructions, which when executed, the instructions cause the apparatus to generate
4 a failure indication upon encountering a failure during an operation performed for a
5 user design, and automatically facilitate a user in determining a solution for the
6 failure.

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1 27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to encounter an occurrence of one or
3 more software events that are to result in at least one of an error and a warning.

1 28. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to generate and display a user interface
3 having a title indicative of the operation during which operation, the failure was
4 encountered.

1 29. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to generate and display one or more
3 expandable error messages.

1 30. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to generate and display one or more
3 error messages in a hierarchical manner.

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1 31. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to facilitate receiving an indication of at
3 least one of editing, canceling, and accepting the failure.

1 32. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to generate and display a message
3 having suggestion for solving the failure.

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1 33. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to visually indicate a portion of the user
3 design associated with the failure.

1 34. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to highlight the portion of the user
3 design associated with the failure.

1 35. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said programming instructions,
2 which when executed, cause the apparatus to generate and display a graphical
3 representation of a light bulb.

1 36. (New) An article of manufacture having stored therein a plurality of
2 programming instructions, which when executed, the instructions cause a machine

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3 to generate a failure indication upon encountering a failure during an operation
4 performed for a user design, and automatically facilitate a user in determining a
5 solution for the failure.

1 37. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to encounter an occurrence
3 of one or more software events that are to result in at least one of an error and a
4 warning.

AS

1 38. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to generate and display a
3 user interface having a title indicative of the operation during which operation, the
4 failure was encountered.

1 39. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to generate and display one
3 or more expandable error messages.

1 40. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to generate and display one
3 or more error messages in a hierarchical manner.

Proprietary

1 41. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to facilitate receiving an
3 indication of at least one of editing, canceling, and accepting the failure.

1 42. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to generate and display a
3 message having suggestion for solving the failure.

Proprietary

1 43. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 36, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to visually indicate a portion
3 of the user design associated with the failure.

1 44. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 43, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to highlight the portion of the
3 user design associated with the failure.

1 45. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 43, wherein said programming
2 instructions, which when executed, cause the machine to generate and display a
3 graphical representation of a light bulb.